

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

- 1-19 (Canceled)
20. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:  
a plurality of spaced apart nodes, substantially all of the nodes of the plurality can  
communicate directly with one another via a medium;  
at least one of the nodes includes a receiver of wireless communications from a portable,  
displaced source and circuitry for determining that the at least one node is not a final recipient of  
~~the received~~ a communication received from the portable source.
21. (Currently Amended) A system as in claim 20 where the nodes each include  
circuitry for directly communicating with one another via the medium.
22. (Original) A system as in claim 21 where at least some of the nodes include at  
least one ambient condition sensor.
23. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 22 where at least some of the sensors  
are selected from a class which includes smoke sensors, gas sensors, flame sensors, thermal  
sensors, location sensors, and movement sensors.
24. (Original) A system as in claim 22 which includes a common control element.

25. (Original) A system as in claim 24 where at least some of the nodes include circuitry for distinguishing received communications for nodes from those for the common control element.

26. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 22 where at least some of the nodes comprise manually operable fire indicating units.

27. (Currently Amended) A system as in claim 21 where members of a plurality of the nodes each includes a receiver of wireless communications from a the portable displaced source and circuitry for determining that the at least one node is not a final recipient of the received communication and circuitry for forwarding the received communication to at least one additional node.

28. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 27 where the members of the plurality include circuitry for forwarding the received communication to a second plurality of nodes.

29. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 27 where the at least one additional node is a common control node.

30. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:  
a plurality of at least three spaced apart nodes, the nodes each include communications circuitry and can communicate directly with one another via a medium;  
at least some of the nodes each include a receiver of wireless communications from a displaced source and circuitry for determining if the respective receiving node is a final recipient of a received communication where,

at least some of the nodes include at least one sensor selected from a class which includes heat sensors, flame sensors, smoke sensors and gas sensors with one of the nodes comprising a common control element.

31. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 30 which includes a common control element coupled to at least some members of the plurality via the medium.

32. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 30 where the receiver of wireless communications includes a second sensor of incident radiant energy.

33. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 32 where the second sensor is responsive to incident infrared-type signals.

34. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 32 which includes a portable source of radiant energy signals.

35. (Currently Amended) ~~A system as in claim 34~~ A system comprising:  
a plurality of spaced apart nodes, the nodes each include communications circuitry and  
can communicate with one another via a medium;  
at least some of the nodes each include a receiver of wireless communications from a  
displaced source and circuitry for determining if the respective receiving node is a final recipient  
of a received communication where,  
at least some of the nodes include at least one sensor selected from a class which includes  
heat sensors, flame sensors, smoke sensors and gas sensors with one of the nodes comprising a  
common control element;  
where the receiver of wireless communications includes a second sensor of incident  
radiant energy;

a portable source of radiant energy signals; and

where the portable source includes circuitry for specifying a message recipient.

36. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 35 where the portable source includes circuitry for specifying a selected message.

37. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 36 where the portable source includes circuitry for receiving communications from at least a selected node.

38. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 37 where the received communications include node test results.

39. (Previously Presented) A system as in claim 36 where the selected message is selected from a class which includes at least a message designating a test, a group self-test, a message designating a time, or a message designating a location.

40. (New) A system comprising:  
a plurality of spaced apart nodes, the nodes each include communications circuitry and can communicate with one another via a medium;  
at least some of the nodes each include a receiver of wireless communications from a displaced source and circuitry for determining if the respective receiving node is a final recipient of a received communication where,  
at least some of the nodes include at least one sensor selected from a class which includes heat sensors, flame sensors, smoke sensors and gas sensors; and  
including a portable, wireless source, the source includes circuitry that specifies a message recipient.